

23 July 1952

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MEMORANDUM FOR: [REDACTED] Chairman pro tem, Working Group
on Honor Awards

1. Herewith are my comments pursuant to paragraph 4 of the minutes of the eighth meeting of the Working Group.

2. I believe the CIA Honor Awards Board should consist of the Personnel Director, CIA Security Officer, Chief, Organization and Methods Service, the chief of the division in which the individual is assigned as an employee in the Deputy Director (Plans) area, the Assistant Director of the office concerned in the Deputy Director (Intelligence) area, or the chief of the office in the Deputy Director (Administration) area, plus one disinterested person of similar rank to be chosen by the chairman. The Personnel Director should be chairman and should provide a recorder and secretary. Format and procedure of the recommendations and other actions should be determined by the board itself, but a minimum of procedure should include preparation of the recommendation by the division chief concerned and submission through the appropriate Deputy Director, or it should have authority to make all findings, but the award itself should be made by and in the name of the Director of Central Intelligence. The board should have authority to request the assistance of any individual or component unit of the Agency in making such investigations as necessary for its determination.

3. I cannot comment on the various pros and cons of having separate awards for valorous and distinguished service, in that I do not know what the pros and cons are. However, I am of the firm personal belief that in spite of the fact that intellectual courage sometimes is a greater virtue than physical courage, there is an inherent difference between the two, and such difference should be acknowledged.

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SA/ADD/A:RSW:jeb

cc: ADD/A chrono
SA/ADD/A file (Working Group, Honor Awards) ✓

